

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-16 are currently pending, although claims 1-10 have been withdrawn from consideration.

The Office Action objected to claims 11-16 as depending from a non-elected process claim. Claim 11 has been amended by incorporating the subject matter of claim 1 into it. In view of this amendment, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

The Office Action also rejected claims 11-14 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by U.S. patent 6,783,807 ("Huffer"), and claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious over Huffer in view of U.S. patent 6,800,304 ("Baumann"). In view of the following comments, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections.

The claimed invention requires that the molding composition is made of materials which are capable of being "in softened or molten form," and capable of undergoing "thermal shaping" when they are in such form. Exemplary materials capable of satisfying these criteria and, thus, falling within the claims are set forth in the present specification beginning at page 5, line 20.

In sharp contrast, Huffer discloses materials suitable for chemical plant construction which are "durable and heat resistant." (Col. 7, lines 56-61). Heat resistant materials, by definition, are not going to be "in softened or molten form" and/or subject to "thermal shaping." Clearly, Huffer's materials are not the same as the claimed materials. Huffer neither teaches nor suggests self-cleaning moldings made from such heat-sensitive materials.

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Only through the present invention have such moldings made from the required materials for the first time. Huffer neither teaches nor suggests the claimed moldings.

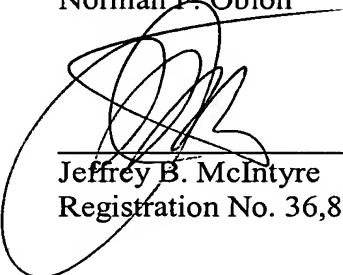
Baumann, which is cited for the extent to which particles are impressed, cannot compensate for Huffer's fatal deficiencies.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under §§ 102 and 103.

Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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